



**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Appl. No. : 10/773,343 Confirmation No.: 6467  
Applicant : Paul R. Sharps, *et al.*  
Filed : February 6, 2004  
TC/A.U. : 1753  
Examiner : Diamond, Alan D.  
  
Docket No. : 1002x (previously 1613370-0046 CON)  
Customer No. : 007470

Mail Stop RCE  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**Response to January 4, 2005 Office Action**

Sir:

In response to the Final Office Action mailed on January 4, 2005, please consider the attached Request for Continued Examination (RCE) and amend the above-identified application as follows:

**Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 2 of this paper;

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims that begins on page 3 of this paper; and

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 17 of this paper.

Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested.

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING/TRANSMISSION**

I hereby certify that this paper is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date shown below.

Melissa McCool  
Name

Signature

May 18, 2005  
Date